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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Wittstock Airfield

File 569

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 12 March 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

1. Elements of a unit from Rechlin-Laerz (N 54/U 33) arrived at Wittstock (N 54/U 11) airfield on 28 January 1951. The same unit, before it had jets, was stationed at the Wittstock airfield prior to its improvement. Among the Soviet dependents who arrived [redacted] were previously stationed at the field. (1) A radio truck, with a rod about 3 meters high, was parked between the temporary buildings and the kommandatura building throughout the day. A small two-stroke engine ran continually inside the truck. Two telephone cables led from the radio truck to the field switchboard.
2. On 25 January, 350 soldiers of the drivers' school who were quartered in the temporary buildings, left the field with their baggage and motor vehicles. (2) The buildings have not been re-occupied since then.
3. On 31 January, one U-2 biplane took off from the field at 8:30 a.m. It returned from the north two hours later. The plane took off again at 10:45 a.m. These flights were repeated throughout the day. Ten silvery jet fighters with swept-back wings landed successively at the field at intervals of about 5 minutes, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The planes were parked on the runway. (3) Ten tank trucks were parked next to the planes. On 1 February, one jet fighter took off from the field at 8:45 a.m. and another one at 8:55 a.m. The planes headed north.
4. The medical officers of the new unit arrived at the field on 31 January and were quartered in the hospital. Their belongings were carried on truck [redacted]. Some Soviet dependents who were living at the field wanted to sell their furniture to Germans. They were probably to return to the Soviet Union.
5. [redacted]
6. The small radar set south of the LVD building was removed on 28 January. The large radar set was still west of the garage. It was not in operation on the days of observation. The building, previously used as club and

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hotel for unmarried high ranking officers was under repair. A motion picture theater was being established on the first floor and a kitchen with five steam boilers, each holding 200 liters, was built on the second floor. The two buildings which were previously occupied by trainees of the drivers' school and later gutted by fire were being reconstructed. (6)

7. [REDACTED]

8. On 2 February, two single-engine, low-wing monoplanes, three biplanes, and 16 jet fighters with swept-back wings were parked in front of the hangars at the airfield. (3) There was no flying between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. with 10/10 overcast and occasional snow. Maintenance work was being done on the aircraft. A farmer living near the field said that a jet fighter unit arrived at the field on 30 January. [REDACTED]

9. Two steel masts, each with a frame aerial about 1 meter square, were in the barracks area. The frame antenna, previously seen on top of the earth bunker north of the road to the field, was still there. The set, probably a sound detector, was still south of the bunker and south of the approach road. The set consisted of a wire basket, about 2 meters in diameter, and 70 cm deep which rotated horizontally. The pedestal of the set was located on top of a bunker on a flat hill. (9)

10. On 2 February, at 10:05 a.m. five air force officers and 10 MI arrived by train from the direction of Neuruppin (N 53/Z 49).

Comments.

- (1) The transfer of fighter units from Laerz to Wittstock was previously reported [REDACTED]. One fighter regiment, [REDACTED] with its ground units was being transferred.
- (2) Soldiers of different units of the 71st Pz Corps are assigned to the drivers' school. Drivers' training was apparently directed by a section of the fighter corps staff or the ATD.
- (3) [REDACTED]
- (4) [REDACTED]
- (5) [REDACTED]
- (6) [REDACTED]
- (7) Construction on the Puetznitz-Damgarten airfield was previously reported [REDACTED].
- (8) The motor vehicle [REDACTED] were previously observed in Wittstock and, therefore do not confirm the arrival of a fighter regiment from Laerz.
- (9) The set cannot be identified from the description given. It is probably a radar set of Wurzburg type which was previously reported. [REDACTED]

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